(April, 2006 to February, 2007) was of the order of 9.5% and 14.2% respectively.

The confidence of the investors in the power sector has increased in recent years. As per the information available, a total capacity of about 24,860 MW (thermal, hydel and nuclear) was under construction at the end of year 2002-03. Presently, a total capacity of about 43,600 MW (thermal, hydel and nuclear) is under execution.

Development of areas near NTPC units

†1431. SHRI RUDRA NARAYAN PANY: Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether NTPC doesn't intend to spend money for developing the area surrounding the places where it has installed its plants;

(b) if not, the expenditure made by the corporation for this purpose and its percentage in terms of total income; and

(c) whether any proposal is lying with NTPC to provide electricity free of cost for developing the surrounding area?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHILKUMAR SHINDE): (a) and (b) NTPC Ltd., as a responsible corporate organization has been addressing the issue of community development in the neighbourhood area of its stations. This is administered primarily as part of resettlement and rehabilitation (R&R) effort as per the provisions of its Resettlement and Rehabilitation (R&R) Policy during initial construction and commissioning phase. For the stations where the R&R activities have been completed, NTPC Ltd. has adopted a comprehensive Corporate Social Responsibility-Community-Development (CSR-CD) Policy.

Since, NTPC Ltd.'s operating stations are located all over India under varying socio-economic condition, the community development programmes are identified and formulated based on the specific needs and requirement of the particular site. The Community Development Programmes are, therefore, formulated based on Need Assessment Survey (NAS) for identifying the specific areas of concern and are implemented in a systematic, uniform and consistent manner.

†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

The targeted communities and the local authorities are closely involved in the process of planning and implementation of the Community Development Programmes to the exent possible and subject to meeting the NTPC Ltd.'s rules and procedures. The Village Development Advisory Committee (VDAC) comprising of representatives from the district administration, local authorities, Panchayat/Nagar Nigam, Non-Government Organizations (NGOs), local community and NTPC Ltd. are formed for consultation while formulating annual plans.

The expenditure incurred by NTPC Ltd. on Community Development is Rs. 16 crore in 2005-06. In addition to this, the expenditure made by NTPC Ltd. during 2005-06 under Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) works was Rs. 13.59 Crores including Rs. 6.02 Crores for area surrounding its stations.

(c) No, Sir.

New transmission projects

1432. SHRIMATI SHOBHANA BHARTIA:
SHRIMATI SUPRIYA SULE:

Will the Minister of POWER be pleased to state:

(a) whether keeping in view the concept of public-private partnership projects, the State-owned Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) has entered into joint ventures with five companies for implementing transmission projects at an estimated investment of Rs. 5000 crores;

(b) if so, whether after having entered into similar alliance with TATAs earlier, Power Grid will now be inking Memoranda of Understanding with State-owned ONGC as also private sector entities;

(c) if so, the total length of the transmission line route of the five projects; and

(d) by when final implementation of this plan is likely to be considered?

THE MINISTER OF POWER (SHRI SUSHIL KUMAR SHINDE): (a) to (c) Power Grid Corporation of India Ltd. (PGCIL) had signed Memorandums of Understanding (MoU) with promoters of five power projects to set up Joint Ventures for implementing dedicated Transmission Systems for